Sri Lakshmi Janardana Temple , Kapu...Udupi, Karnataka

Info is given under following headings:

Location, address, phone, how to get there. Greatness of this temple. Legends and history. Architecture of temple deities. Sub-deities daily rituals and poojas and their charges ..special poojas and rituals and their charges.. festivals, facilities for devotees...like accommodation etc. Donation info and bank acct number etc. Nearby temples. Other tourist attractions. Nearby budget hotels. Any other info...etc

****

Location, Address, Phone, How to Get There

Location: Kaup (Kapu), Udupi district, Karnataka – about 12 km south of Udupi town on NH-66 (towards Mangalore).

Address: Uliyargoli, Kaup, Udupi - 574106, Karnataka.

Phone: 0820-2551656 (temple contact, as listed on Justdial and other directories).

How to reach: Nearest railway station is Udupi (≈12 km).

Nearest airport: Mangalore International (≈45-50 km).

Frequent buses/taxis from Udupi or Mangalore; the temple is easily accessible right off the highway.

Greatness of This Temple

This ancient Vishnu temple is highly revered in Tulunadu for its quick fulfillment of devotees' prayers.

Lord Janardhana is seen as especially responsive, and the combined presence of Lakshmi adds blessings for wealth and protection.

It's considered one of the oldest Vishnu shrines in the region.

Legends and History

The temple dates back to the 13th century (over 800 years old), with legends saying the main idol of Shri Janardhana Swami was installed by Bhargava Rishi thousands of years ago.

It underwent major renovation around 2010 (Brahmakalashotsava), including granite structures and reinstallation of idols, costing crores and managed by local committees.

Architecture of Temple & Deities

Traditional Kerala/Tulu-style architecture with granite sanctum (Garbhagudi), portico (Mukhamantapa), and sacred hall.

The main deity is Lord Janardhana (form of Vishnu) in standing posture, richly adorned, with **Goddess Lakshmi** associated in the complex.

(These show temple views and utsava scenes from recent posts.)

Sub-Deities

Shri Ganapathi, Balimoorthy (Krishna child form), and Anjaneya (Hanuman).

These were reinstalled during the 2010 renovation.

Daily Rituals and Poojas (and Charges)

Standard Vishnu temple schedule: early morning nirmalya visarjana, ushatkala puja, madhyahna puja, etc., with evening aarti.

The temple is open daily until around 8:00 PM.

Specific charges aren't widely published online (usually nominal like ₹10-100 for archana/flower offerings), so best to call the temple or ask on-site.

Special Poojas and Rituals (and Charges)

Annual Raasi Pooja (zodiac-based offerings) – held every April 25.

Car Festival (Rathotsava) – grand procession where the priest carries the deity on his head to the decorated chariot, with fireworks.

Bali utsava and other Tulu traditions like oresa bali (seen in recent events).

Charges vary by offering; contact the temple for current rates (no fixed online list found).

Festivals

- Rathotsava (car festival) – major annual event.
- Raasi Pooja – April 25 every year.
- Other utsavas like Bali Utsava, Manmaharatsava (recently held).
- Aligns with Vishnu festivals like Ekadashi.

Facilities for Devotees

Sacred tank (pushkarini) for rituals, drinking water available.

No dedicated on-site accommodation, but nearby options in Kaup/Udupi.

Devotees often stay in Udupi for pilgrimage circuits.

Donation Info

Donations support maintenance, festivals, and renovations (past ones managed by temple committee).

No public bank account details found online—please call 0820-2551656 or visit to contribute directly (common for such temples).

Nearby Temples

- Hosa Marigudi / Mariamma temples (in same Kaup town, but separate).
- Shri Janardhana Temple, Yermal (nearby).
- Shri Mahalaxmi Temple, Uchila.
- Udupi Shri Krishna Matha (12 km).
- Others like Barkur Laxmi Narayana.

Other Tourist Attractions

- Kaup Beach & Lighthouse (iconic spot nearby).
- Malpe Beach & St. Mary's Island.
- Mattu Beach.

Nearby Budget Hotels

Options in Kaup/Udupi: Hotel Mayura (NH-66), budget lodges around ₹800-2000/night.

In Udupi: Shri Krishna Kripa (temple-affiliated), various economy stays ₹500-1500.

Any Other Info

No official website, but active on Facebook/Instagram (search "Kapu Shri Laxmi Janardhana Temple" for updates, photos of utsavas).

Dress modestly, follow customs

****

Ref: Google Gemini

The Mahatobhara Sri Lakshmi Janardana Devastana in Kapu (Kaup), Udupi, is one of the most revered and ancient shrines in coastal Karnataka. I

t is a major temple under the administration of the Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments (Muzrai) Department.

1. **Location and Contact Info**

* **Address**: Main Road, Uliyargoli, Kapu, Udupi District, Karnataka - 574106.

* **Phone**: 0820-2551656

* **How to Get There:**

* **By Road**: Located on NH-66 (Udupi-Mangalore Highway). It is approximately 15 km from Udupi and 40 km from Mangalore.

* **By Rail**: The nearest major railway station is Udupi (UD).

* **By Air**: The nearest airport is Mangalore International Airport (IXE).

2. **History, Legend, and Greatness**

The temple is over 800 years old, making it one of the oldest in the Tulu Nadu region.

* **Legend**: It is believed that the great sage Bhargava Rishi performed penance here and installed the idol of Lord Janardana thousands of years ago.

* **Greatness**: The deity is often called the "Sovereign of a Thousand Regions" (Savira Seemeya Odeya).

It serves as a spiritual anchor for the local community, known for its powerful presence and the strict adherence to Vedic rituals.

3. **Architecture and Deities**

* **Architecture**: The temple follows the traditional Tulu Nadu style of coastal Karnataka, featuring a tiled sloping roof (to withstand heavy monsoons), a granite sanctum sanctorum (Garbhagudi), and a spacious outer courtyard (Prakara).

* **Main Deity**: Lord Janardana (a form of Lord Vishnu) is the presiding deity, seen with **Goddess Lakshmi** (often represented on His chest or as part of the divine energy).

* **Sub-Deities**: The temple complex also houses shrines for Lord Ganapathi and Lord Mukhyaprana (Hanuman).

4. **Daily Rituals and Poojas**

* **Timings**: Usually 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 5:30 PM – 8:30 PM.

* **Common Poojas**: Archana, Tulabhara (weighing against grain/sugar), Panchamrutha Abhisheka, and Maha Pooja.

* **Charges**: As a Government-managed (Mahatobhara) temple, charges are standardized. Basic Archanas typically range from ₹10–₹50, while elaborate Sevas like Udayasthamana Pooja or Anna Santarpana can cost more.

> **Note**: For the exact current rate chart and booking of special rituals, it is best to visit the temple office directly.
>

5. **Festivals and Special Rituals**

* **Annual Rathotsava (Car Festival):** The grandest event, usually held in February/March (Magha Maasa).

It is a 9-day celebration starting with the Dwajarohana (Flag Hoisting) and culminating in the pulling of the massive wooden chariot.

* **Special Rituals:** Pallaki Utsava (Palanquin procession), Utsava Bali, and Fireworks display during the car festival are major highlights.

6. **Facilities for Devotees**

* **Accommodation**: While the temple provides basic amenities, there isn't a large-scale dedicated "Yatri Nivas" within the complex. However, several private lodges and homestays are available within walking distance in Kapu town.

* **Anna Santarpana:** During major festivals and on specific days, free meals (Prasadam) are served to devotees.

7. **Nearby Attractions & Budget Hotels**

* **Nearby Temples**: Hale Marigudi and Hosa Marigudi (famed for their Tuesday festivals), and the Udupi Sri Krishna Mutt (15 km away).

* **Tourist Spots:** Kaup Beach and its historic Lighthouse (approx. 2 km from the temple) are must-visit locations.

* **Budget Hotels**:

  * Hotel Mandara Kaup (Near Marigudi)
  * Srishti Residency
  * SS Guest House

8. **Donations and Bank Details**

To ensure your contribution reaches the official temple fund safely, please note:

* **Bank Info**: Since this is a government-regulated temple, donations are usually accepted via the Muzrai Department's official receipts.

* **Recommendation**: I strongly advise you to call the temple office at 0820-2551656 or visit the office in person to obtain the official IFSC and Account Number to avoid any online fraud.

Contact details for any specific budget hotels near the temple or check the exact dates for the 2026 Rathotsava:

For 2026, the annual Brahma Rathotsava (Car Festival) of the Sri Lakshmi Janardana Devastana in Kapu is currently in progress.

Based on the traditional calendar and current temple schedules:

* Dwajarohana (Flag Hoisting): February 12, 2026 (Thursday)
* Sanna Rathotsava: February 18, 2026 (Today)
* Brahma Rathotsava (Main Car Festival): February 19, 2026 (Tomorrow)
* Avabhrutha Snana (Holy Dip/Churna Utsava): February 20, 2026

Key Highlights for Devotees

* **Today** (Feb 18): You will see the Chakra Suttu and Sanna Rathotsava rituals in the evening. This is a beautiful time to witness the temple illuminated.

* **Tomorrow** (Feb 19): This is the peak day. The massive wooden chariot (Brahma Ratha) will be pulled along the main streets of Kapu.

It usually begins in the afternoon or evening, depending on the Muhurta. Expect very large crowds and a festive atmosphere with local fairs and stalls.

* **Rituals**: During these days, special Bali Utsavas and Darshana Bali (where the deity's representative is carried) are performed with traditional music (Tase, Nagaswaram).

Logistics Note

Since you are visiting during the peak festival days:

* **Transport**: NH-66 near the temple will be quite crowded. If you are driving from Udupi or Mangalore, expect minor diversions near the Kapu junction.

* **Safety**: Keep an eye on your belongings as the Rathotsava attracts thousands of devotees from across the Udupi district.

* **Food**: The temple usually arranges Anna Prasadam (free lunch) for all devotees during the festival days.

***

Chariot pulling muhurta:

The Brahma Rathotsava (the main Car Festival) of the Sri Lakshmi Janardana Devastana in Kapu for the year 2026 is scheduled for tomorrow, Thursday, February 19, 2026.

As per the traditional temple calendar and auspicious timings (Muhurta) for this year:

Chariot Pulling Timings (February 19, 2026)

The festival involves two major stages for the chariot:

* **Ratharohana** (Mounting the Chariot): * Time: Between 10:45 AM and 11:30 AM (Auspicious Lagna in the morning).

* **Detail**: This is when the deity of Lord Janardana is ceremoniously carried out of the sanctum and placed upon the decorated Brahma Ratha.

Many devotees gather at this time to witness the first glimpse of the Lord on the chariot.

* **Brahma Rathotsava (Main Chariot Pulling):** * Time: The main street procession (Ratha Beedi Utsava) traditionally begins in the Late Evening / Night, typically between 8:30 PM and 10:00 PM.

* **Detail**: Unlike some temples that pull the chariot during the day, Kapu Janardana is famous for its grand Night Rathotsava.

The chariot is pulled through the main streets of Kapu accompanied by traditional music (Chende, Nagaswaram), fireworks, and thousands of devotees.

Schedule for Tomorrow (Feb 19)

* **Morning**: Special Abhisheka and Nitya Vidhis.

* **11:00 AM (Approx**): Ratharohana ceremony.

* **12:30 PM onwards**: Mahapooja followed by Maha Anna Santarpana (Grand public feast/Prasadam meal) for all devotees.

* **Night**: Utsava Bali, followed by the pulling of the Brahma Ratha through the streets.
Day After (February 20, 2026)
* Avabhrutha Snana (Okkuli): The following morning, the "Churna Utsava" and holy dip ceremony will take place, marking the conclusion of the major festival events.

Travel Tip: Since the main pulling happens tomorrow night, the town of Kapu will be extremely crowded. If you plan to pull the chariot or get a close darshan, I recommend arriving at the temple by 7:30 PM to secure a spot along the Ratha Beedi (Chariot Street).

***

Okuli ritu als (colours festival)

The Okkuli (color festival) and Avabhrutha Snana (holy dip) are the joyful concluding rituals of the Brahma Rathotsava.

They will take place on Friday, February 20, 2026.

Based on the traditional schedule for the Kapu Janardana Devastana, here is what you can expect on Friday morning:

Friday, Feb 20: Morning Rituals Schedule

* **Churna Utsava & Avabhrutha Snana**: * Time: Approximately 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM.

* **The Ritual**: The Utsava Murti (procession deity) is taken to the temple's holy tank (Pushkarini) for the ceremonial bath. This marks the spiritual "cooling down" after the intense energy of the chariot pulling the night before.

* **Okkuli** (The Color Festival): * Time: Immediately following the bath (around 11:00 AM onwards).

* **The Celebration**: This is a vibrant event where devotees and temple staff spray each other with saffron and turmeric water (Vasantha Okkuli). It is a moment of great celebration and community bonding.

* **Dwajarohana** (Flag Lowering): * **Time**: Between 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM.

* **Significance**: The ritual lowering of the temple flag signifies the official conclusion of the 9-day annual festival.

* **Maha Samprokshane & Prasadam**: * The day usually ends with a purification ritual and a final Anna Santarpana (lunch) for the devotees who participated in the Okkuli.

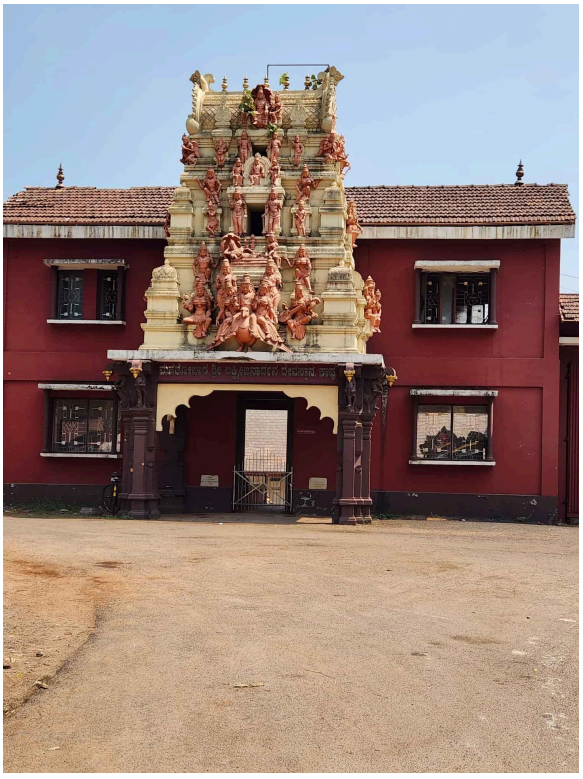
Important Tips for Friday

* **Clothing**: If you plan to participate in the Okkuli, wear clothes that you don't mind getting stained by yellow turmeric water. It’s a messy but very auspicious tradition!
* **Photography**: If you are bringing a camera or phone, ensure you have a waterproof pouch, as water and turmeric powder will be flying everywhere during the Okkuli procession.
* **Crowds**: While not as dense as the Thursday night Chariot pulling, the Friday morning session is very popular with locals and can get quite lively.

***

Photos

Sri Lakshmi Janardhana Temple Kapu
Bali Utsava
Prakshith Bhat



Videos

Kapu Sri Lakshmi Janardhana Temple (4 min);

https://youtu.be/gVH_o6eQ4Hg?si=8uh7g1ZETsWyC7T3

Kapu Sri Lakshmi Janardhana Temple - Utsava Bali on 17th February 2026 (14 min):

https://youtu.be/-FRryCK7Nfc?si=s0p4mbjuMFHCAmch

Dhwajarohana - on 13 February 2026 (19 min);

https://youtu.be/4PfXDB9hW5I?si=3qckv_PTxCZN1JTr

Dhwajarohana - on 13 February 2026(25 min):

https://youtu.be/UKlDG_A2szg?si=dv8n18JziKVwr0j5

Utsava Bali February 2026 (2 min):

https://youtube.com/shorts/-htP1SVRzjc?si=8XnEe_WLrdij6aVd

Glimpses of Kapu Rathotsava 3026 (1.30 min):

https://youtu.be/2Gl4mlLtTQ4?si=B1IKwD5qt5a-Pqfx

Kapu Sri Lakshmi Janardhana Temple Rathotsava 2022 (12 min):

https://youtu.be/PclKqnB1USs?si=3-wGYB7Yfjp673pb

****

Dr. M. Thirumaleshwar

February 20, 2026

****